

News Release

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Soil cleanup begins at Dunn Field

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – Environmental contractors for the former Memphis Depot have begun the cleanup of soil on the western portion of Dunn Field. Work in this area is expected to last 30 to 45 days.

The selected remedy for this area of Dunn Field is the excavation, transport and disposal (ET&D) of buried waste and impacted soil from some of the disposal sites on Dunn Field. All excavated materials will be taken to an approved off-site waste facility for disposal.

The remedy is being implemented as part of the Remedial Action phase of the Depot's environmental program, which is regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

The EPA and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) approved the ET&D remedy in the Dunn Field Record of Decision in April 2004 and a pre-design investigation was performed to determine where ET&D was required. A public briefing was held Jan. 20, 2005, for the Dunn Field Disposal Sites Remedial Design to provide information about the cleanup to the public.

During Remedial Action, a safety plan will be implemented to ensure the cleanup is protective of human health and environment. The safety plan includes air monitoring, dust control measures, personal protective equipment for workers, and cleaning protocols for excavation equipment.

Once the excavations are complete, the soil around the excavation will be tested to ensure the remaining soil meets the cleanup criteria. The excavated soil will be replaced with clean fill. The planned future land use for this area is light industrial. Permanent deed restrictions will be put in place to prevent future residential development on Dunn Field, and EPA and TDEC will review the effectiveness of the remedy at five-year intervals to ensure the site continues to be safe for community reuse.

The Dunn Field Record of Decision and the Dunn Field Disposal Sites Remedial Design and Remedial Action Work Plan are available for reference in the Depot's three Information Repositories, located at the former Memphis Depot, the Cherokee Library and the Memphis/Shelby County Health Department.

For more information, contact the Depot's Community Relations Office at (901) 774-3683.

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